Remarks and Arguments Responsive to 4 June '04 Official Action

It is respectfully asserted that the herein-inserted linearlydefined limitation to Claim 1(Amended) has antecedent basis in the 23 July 2003-filed drawing Figures 4, 5, and 7.

It is respectfully urged that salient 35 USCode 112 objections are hereabove meaningfully complied with.

Disclosure of Applicants' Recent Prior Art Searches

Co-applicants' independent prior art searches, conducted prior to 4 June 2004, reveal nothing more relevant than the Examiner's primary reliance upon U. S. Patent 4,998,310 (Olson - 1991). Nevertheless, coapplicant wishes the Examiner to become aware of Fogel's U. S. Patent numbers 4,077,074 (1978) and 4,771,491 (1988).

Argument as to Patentability for Claim 1(Amended)

Applicants' sole independent claim , Claim 1(Amended) is encumbered by: "four structurally-continuous resinous bars that cornerwise intersect as linearly-defined mateable tongues-and-grooves". In direct counterdistinction as opposed to <u>Olson's</u>: <u>Olson's</u> all four elongate bars (32, 34, 36, 38) are segmented (as opposed to applicants' structurally= continuous bars); and Olson's bars cornerwise intersect as wholly curvably defined connections (as opposed to applicants' linearly-defined tongues-andgrooves). Moreover, applicants' structurally-continuous and linearly-defined limitations to Claim 1(Amended) ensure that the thus four-encumbered elongate resinous bars will readily and reliably snugly abut a barssurrounding horizontal sleeping mattress.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, it is sincerely asserted that independent Claim 1(Amended), and afortiori its dependent Claims nos. 2-8, represent novel and unobvious subject matter for which patent protection is warranted.

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Certificate of Mailing

I (Kenneth L. Conaway) do hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service on this <u>27</u> day of August 2004, in a despatch envelope (1st class postage prepaid thereon) and addressed to:

Honorable Commissioner for Patents P 0 Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450